

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Algeria

Grain and Feed Update

Wheat update

Approved By:

Kurt Seifarth

Prepared By:

Nabila Hales

Report Highlights:

Ministry of Agriculture increases wheat quotas to millers by 10 percent.

Post:
Algiers

Author Defined:

General Information

Ministry of Agriculture announced 10 percent increase in the wheat quotas (both durum and bread wheat) allocated to millers. This decision came on the eve of the holy month of Ramadan to avoid shortages, knowing that during this month, food consumption increases significantly.

The government grain buying agency (OAIC) had already increased wheat quotas supplied to mills from 50 percent to 60 percent of their milling capacity starting on January, 2011 as part of new measures to control consumer level prices in January 2011. This new increase will bring wheat supplied to mills to 70 percent of capacity.

Crop Situation

According to ministry of agriculture preliminary estimates, grain production, this year will vary from 4.3 to 4.6 million MT and will be excellent in the Eastern region, average in the Center region and below average in the western part of the country that was severely affected by drought. Durum production is estimated to be excellent, bread wheat good but barley would be below average due to the drought that affected the pastoral areas in the western region.

To recall, 3.3 million hectares were planted this year with grains of which 141,000 ha were reserved for production of certified seeds.